

UTAH CODE, 1953  
TITLE 26A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES  
CHAPTER 1. LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS  
PART 1. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES

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26A-1-114 Powers and duties of departments.

(1) A local health department may:

(a) enforce state laws, local ordinances, department rules, and local health department standards and regulations relating to public health and sanitation, including the plumbing code adopted by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing under Section 58-56-4 and under Title 26, Chapter 15a, Food Safety Manager Certification Act;

(b) establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and exercise physical control over property and over individuals as the local health department finds necessary for the protection of the public health;

(c) establish and maintain medical, environmental, occupational, and other laboratory services considered necessary or proper for the protection of the public health;

(d) establish and operate reasonable health programs or measures not in conflict with state law that:

(i) are necessary or desirable for the promotion or protection of the public health and the control of disease; or

(ii) may be necessary to ameliorate the major risk factors associated with the major causes of injury, sickness, death, and disability in the state;

(e) close theaters, schools, and other public places and prohibit gatherings of people when necessary to protect the public health;

(f) abate nuisances or eliminate sources of filth and infectious and communicable diseases affecting the public health and bill the owner or other person in charge of the premises upon which this nuisance occurs for the cost of abatement;

(g) make necessary sanitary and health investigations and inspections on its own initiative or in cooperation with the Department of Health or Environmental Quality, or both, as to any matters affecting the public health;

(h) (i) establish and collect appropriate fees;

(ii) accept, use, and administer all federal, state, or private donations or grants of funds, property, services, or materials for public health purposes; and

(iii) make agreements not in conflict with state law that are conditional to receiving a donation or grant;

(i) prepare, publish, and disseminate information necessary to inform and advise the public concerning:

(i) the health and wellness of the population, specific hazards, and risk factors that may adversely affect the health and wellness of the population; and

(ii) specific activities individuals and institutions can engage in to promote and protect the health and wellness of the population;

(j) investigate the causes of morbidity and mortality;

(k) issue notices and orders necessary to carry out this part;

(l) conduct studies to identify injury problems, establish injury control systems, develop standards for the correction and prevention of future occurrences, and provide public information and instruction to special high risk groups;

(m) cooperate with boards created under Section 19-1-106 to enforce laws and rules within the jurisdiction of the boards; and

(n) cooperate with the state health department, the Department of Corrections, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Division of Youth Corrections, and the Crime Victims Reparations Board to conduct testing for HIV infection of convicted sexual offenders and any victims of a sexual offense.

(2) The local health department shall:

(a) establish programs or measures to promote and protect the health and general wellness of the people within the boundaries of the local health department;

(b) investigate infectious and other diseases of public health importance and implement measures to control the causes of epidemic and communicable diseases and other conditions significantly affecting the public health which may include involuntary testing of convicted sexual offenders for the HIV infection pursuant to Section 76-5-502 and voluntary testing of victims of sexual offenses for HIV infection pursuant to Section 76-5- 503;

(c) cooperate with the department in matters pertaining to the public health and in the administration of state health laws; and

(d) coordinate implementation of environmental programs to maximize efficient use of resources by developing with the Department of Environmental Quality a Comprehensive Environmental Service Delivery Plan that:

(i) recognizes that the Department of Environmental Quality and local health departments are the foundation for providing environmental health programs in the state;

(ii) delineates the responsibilities of the department and each local health department for the efficient delivery of environmental programs using federal, state, and local authorities, responsibilities,

and resources;

(iii) provides for the delegation of authority and pass through of funding to local health departments for environmental programs, to the extent allowed by applicable law, identified in the plan, and requested by the local health department; and

(iv) is reviewed and updated annually.

(3) The local health department has the following duties regarding public and private schools within its boundaries:

(a) enforce all ordinances, standards, and regulations pertaining to the public health of persons attending public and private schools;

(b) exclude from school attendance any person, including teachers, who is suffering from any communicable or infectious disease, whether acute or chronic, if the person is likely to convey the disease to those in attendance;

(c) (i) make regular inspections of the health-related condition of all school buildings and premises;

(ii) report the inspections on forms furnished by the department to those responsible for the condition and provide instructions for correction of any conditions that impair or endanger the health or life of those attending the schools; and

(iii) provide a copy of the report to the department at the time the report is made.

(4) If those responsible for the health-related condition of the school buildings and premises do not carry out any instructions for corrections provided in a report in Subsection (3)(c), the local health board shall cause the conditions to be corrected at the expense of the persons responsible.

(5) The local health department may exercise incidental authority as necessary to carry out the provisions and purposes of this part.

History: C. 1953, 26-24-14, enacted by L. 1981, ch. 126, § 23; 1989, ch. 269, § 3; renumbered by L. 1990, ch. 186, § 902; 1991, ch. 112, §§ 16, 242; C. 1953, 17A-3-514; renumbered by L. 1991, ch. 269, § 17; 1993, ch. 40, § 2; 1995, ch. 218, § 2; 1998, ch. 345, § 8.

#### NOTES, REFERENCES, AND ANNOTATIONS

Amendment Notes. --The 1995 amendment, effective May 1, 1995, substituted "plumbing code adopted by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing under Section 58-56-4" for "Uniform Plumbing Code established by Section 58-56-4" in Subsection (1)(a).

The 1998 amendment, effective May 4, 1998, added "and under Title 26, Chapter 15a, Food Safety Manager Certification Act" at the end of Subsection (1)(a).

Compiler's Notes. --Laws 1991, ch. 112, § 242(20)(d) directs that Subsection (1) of former § 17A-3-514 be transferred to Subsection (2) of § 26A-1-114.

Laws 1991, ch. 112, § 242(20)(e) directs that in Subsection (1)(g), "Department of Health or Environmental Quality, or both" be substituted for "department,"; in Subsection (1)(k), "; and" be

deleted; in Subsection (1)(l), "; and" be added at the end; and Subsection (1)(m) be added.

#### NOTES TO DECISIONS

Inspection fees.

A charge imposed by a local board of health department program on participants to defray the costs of an inspection program is a "fee" authorized by this section. *Utah Restaurant Ass'n v. Salt Lake City-County Bd. of Health*, 771 P.2d 671 (Utah Ct. App.), cert. denied, 789 P.2d 33 (Utah 1989).

#### COLLATERAL REFERENCES

Utah Law Review. --Recent Developments in Case Law: Retaliatory Eviction as a Defense in Unlawful Detainer Actions, 1997 Utah L. Rev. 244.

A.L.R. --Violation of governmental regulations as to conditions and facilities of swimming pools as affecting liability in negligence, 79 A.L.R.4th 461.

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